

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (cancelled)

2. (presently amended) ~~The A method of claim 1 wherein transforming~~
~~comprises~~ determining a shortest path between a source node and a
destination node in an optical network having plural network nodes
interconnected with optical transmission links, the method comprising:

assigning an electronic node to each network node, the electronic node
 representing an electronic switching fabric interconnecting optical-electrical-
 optical (OEO) transmitters and receivers of the network node;

assigning optical channel nodes to each network node, each optical
 channel node representing an optical cross-connect for an optical channel
 available at the network node;

for each network node, assigning an internal link from the electronic node
 to each optical channel node only if an associated OEO transmitter is available
 for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the
available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m , and assigning an internal link to the
 electronic node from each optical channel node only if an associated OEO
 receiver is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a
particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m ;

for each optical transmission link, assigning an optical channel link
 between a pair of optical channel nodes of corresponding network nodes only if
 the corresponding optical channel is available on the associated optical
 transmission link; and

assigning costs to the internal links and the optical channel links.

3. (original): The method of claim 2 wherein the costs assigned to the internal
 links are related to OEO conversion costs.

4. (original): The method of claim 2 wherein the costs assigned to the optical
 channel links are related to costs of the corresponding optical transmission links.

5. (presently amended): The method of claim 2 4 wherein applying the single-source shortest path algorithm includes applying Dijkstra's algorithm.

6. – 9. (cancelled)

10. (presently amended): ~~The apparatus of claim 9 wherein transforming comprises~~ Apparatus for a network node in a network having plural nodes interconnected with optical transmission links, the apparatus comprising:

a processor;

a memory connected to the processor;

a plurality of optical-electrical-optical (OEO) transmitters and receivers;

and

a computer program, in the memory, for:

assigning an electronic node to each network node, the electronic node representing an electronic switching fabric interconnecting optical-electrical-optical (OEO) transmitters and receivers of the network node;

assigning optical channel nodes to each network node, each optical channel node representing an optical cross-connect for an optical channel available at the network node;

for each network node, assigning an internal link from the electronic node to each optical channel node only if an associated OEO transmitter is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m , and

assigning an internal link to the electronic node from each optical channel node only if an associated OEO receiver is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m .

for each optical transmission link, assigning an optical channel link between a pair of optical channel nodes of corresponding network nodes

only if the corresponding optical channel is available on the associated optical transmission link; and

assigning costs to the internal links and the optical channel links.

11. (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the costs assigned to the internal links are related to OEO conversion costs.

12. (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the costs assigned to the optical channel links are related to costs of the corresponding optical transmission links.

13. (presently amended): A computer program product for determining an optimal path between a source node and a destination node in an optical network having plural network nodes interconnected with optical transmission links, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code thereon, including program code which:

assigns an electronic node to each network node, the electronic node representing an electronic switching fabric interconnecting optical-electrical-optical (OEO) transmitters and receivers of the network node;

assigns optical channel nodes to each network node, each optical channel node representing an optical cross-connect for an optical channel available at the network node;

assigns an internal link from the electronic node to each optical channel node only if an associated OEO transmitter is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m , and assigning an internal link to the electronic node from each optical channel node only if an associated OEO receiver is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m ;

assigns an optical channel link between a pair of optical channel nodes of corresponding network nodes only if the corresponding optical channel is available on the associated optical transmission link;

assigns costs to the internal links and the optical channel links; and

selects an optimal path by applying a single-source shortest path algorithm.

14. (presently amended) A computer data signal comprising a code segment for determining an optimal path between a source node and a destination node in an optical network having plural network nodes interconnected with optical transmission links, the computer data signal including instructions to:

assign an electronic node to each network node, the electronic node representing an electronic switching fabric interconnecting optical-electrical-optical (OEO) transmitters and receivers of the network node;

assign optical channel nodes to each network node, each optical channel node representing an optical cross-connect for an optical channel available at the network node;

assign an internal link from the electronic node to each optical channel node only if an associated OEO transmitter is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m and assigning an internal link to the electronic node from each optical channel node only if an associated OEO receiver is available for the corresponding optical channel associated with a particular one of the available wavelengths λ_1 through λ_m ;

assign an optical channel link between a pair of optical channel nodes of corresponding network nodes only if the corresponding optical channel is available on the associated optical transmission link;

assign costs to the internal links and the optical channel links; and

select an optimal path by applying a single-source shortest path algorithm.